

A bill for an act
relating to railroads; directing commissioner to apply for federal grants for rail
safety technology; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 219.01.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 219.01, is amended to read:

219.01 TRACK SAFETY STANDARDS; SAFETY TECHNOLOGY GRANTS.

(a) The track safety standards of the United States Department of Transportation and
Federal Railroad Administration apply to railroad trackage and are the standards for the
determination of unsafe trackage within the state.

(b) The commissioner of transportation shall apply to the Federal Railroad
Administration under Public Law 110-432, the Railroad Safety Enhancement Act of 2008
(the act), for (1) railroad safety technology grant funding available to state governments
under section 105 of the act and (2) development and installation of rail safety technology,
including provision for switch position indicator signals in nonsignalized main track
territory, under section 406 of the act, no later than October 16, 2009. The commissioner
shall prioritize grant requests and the installation of switch indicator signals on all
segments of nonsignalized track where posted speeds are in excess of 20 miles per hour
and apply for grant funding in each year after 2009 until all nonsignalized track territory
in the state has switch indicator signals installed and in operation.